

Message Text

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41

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 IO-11 ACDA-10 OMB-01 /107 W

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R 241042Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 354

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMCONSULATE ALEXANDRIA

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY SANA

UNCLAS CAIRO 2407

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, EG, FR, SO, ET

SUBJECT: REPORT OF EGYPTIAN MEDIATION EFFORTS ON DJIBOUTI QUESTION

1. ACCORDING TO AHAM DIPLOMATIC CORESPONDENT HAMDI FUAD, IN ARTICLE APPEARING FEBRUARY 4, EGYPT IS UNDERTAKING DIPLOMATIC MEDIATION EFFORTS IN CAIRO BETWEEN FRENCH AND SOMALIS OVER QUESTION OF POPULAR REFERENDUM TO BE HELD IN DJIBOUTI AND EVENTUAL INDEPENDENCE FOR TFAI. ACCORDING TO AHAM, DEPPRIMIN/FONMIN FAHMY CALLED IN FRENCH AMBASSADOR DE LEUSSE PRIOR TO FEBRUARY 21 FAHMY DEPARTURE FOR SAUDI ARABIA, AND SUGGESTED THAT CAIRO WOULD BE SUITABLE LOCATION FOR DIPLOMATIC CONTACTS BETWEEN FRENCH AND SOMALIS TO CLEAR UP MISUNDERSTANDINGS ON REFERENDUM QUESTION. FRENCH AMBASSADOR DE LEUSSE REPORTEDLY AGREED THAT GOE SHOULD DISCUSS QUESTION WITH SOMALI EMBASSY CAIRO AND LOCAL ARAB LEAGUE OFFICIALS. ARTICLE ALSO REPORTED THAT AMBASSADOR DE LEUSSE

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CALLED ON SA'ID NOFAL, ACTING SEC GEN OF ARAB LEAGUE,

FEBRUARY 23, TO DISCUSS FURTHER EGYPTIAN PROPOSALS FOR
FRENCH-SOMALI MEDIATION IN CAIRO.

2. COMMENT: FUAD ARTICLE DOES NOT CONTAIN ANY SPECIFIC
PROPOSALS BY FAHMY TO AMBASSADOR DE LEUSSE BUT, AS CAIRO
PRESS ALSO REPORTED TWO-HOUR DISCUSSION BETWEEN VP MUBARAK
AND SOMALI PRESIDENT BARRE (DURING LATTER'S FOUR-HOUR STOPOVER
IN CAIRO FEBRUARY 23 ENROUTE TO MOSCOW), IT WOULD APPEAR
THAT EGYPTIANS BECOMING INCREASINGLY CONCERNED OF POTENTIAL
INSTABILITY IN
LOWER RED SEA AREA AND PUTTING CAUTIOUS TOE IN MEDIATION
WATERS.
EILTS

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